

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 ACDA-05 AID-05 /086 W

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R 271401Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4484

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JO, FR, XF

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF KING HUSSEIN'S  
VISIT TO FRANCE

1. SUMMARY. IN PREDICTABLY BLANKET COVERAGE OF KING'S  
VISIT TO FRANCE, JORDANIAN PRESS HAS STRESSED HUSSEIN'S  
DEMANDS FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, LONG-TIME FRANCO-ARAB  
FRIENDSHIP SINCE 1967, AND POSSIBILITY OF FRENCH ROLE IN  
MIDEAST PEACE MOVE. MUCH SPECULATION ON  
EFFECT OF US PRESSURE ON ISRAEL RESULTING FROM REASSESS-  
MENT. PROMINENCE GIVEN TO AFP REPORT ON POSSIBILITY OF  
JORDANIAN-SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN COOPERATION AGAINST ISRAEL. END  
SUMMARY.

2. JORDANIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN FULL COVERAGE TO KING'S  
SOJOURN IN FRANCE, TREATING VISIT AS ONE MORE EPI-  
SODE IN CONTINUING FRIENDSHIP WHICH HAS GAINED IN  
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STRENGTH SINCE FRANCE "CONDEMNED ISRAELI AGGRESSION

IN 1967". KING'S REFERENCE IN RADIO MONTE CARLO PRESS CONFERENCE TO "COOPERATION AND THE FORMATION OF COMMITTEES TO STUDY PROJECTS IN WHICH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT CAN PARTICIPATE" IS OFTEN CITED, AS IS HIS STRESS ON ROLE FRANCE CAN PLAY IN "COMPELLING" ISRAEL TO PULL BACK FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. "FRANCE HAS ALWAYS PARTICIPATED IN ALL ATTEMPTS TO BRING ABOUT A JUST AND PERMANENT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST".

3. KING'S COMMENTS IN MIDEAST SITUATION REVEAL LITTLE NEW, REVIEWING NECESSITY OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND POSSIBILITY OF CARRYING TALKS TO SECURITY COUNCIL IF GENEVA FAILS. KING EXPRESSED INTEREST IN US ROLE IN PRESSURING ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW; "I HAVE MANY QUESTIONS TO ASK ON THIS SUBJECT, AND I HOPE TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO THEM IN WASHINGTON".

4. LOCAL PRESS GIVES PROMINENCE TO AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE REPORT (MENTIONED IN DEPT PRESS BRIEFING APRIL 25) THAT ISRAELI MILITARY OBSERVERS BELIEVE THERE IS SERIOUS POSSIBILITY THAT JORDAN WILL JOIN SYRIA AND EGYPT IN ANY NEW WAR. "THESE OBSERVERS ARE VIEWING WITH INCREASING ALARM THE MOUNTING MILITARY COOPERATION BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN; IN CASE OF WAR, JORDAN IS EXPECTED TO MOVE...ONTO THE WEST BANK. THE JORDAN ARMY HAS 500 TANKS...AND CAN EASILY GET ANY QUANTITY OF ROCKETS FROM ITS NEIGHBORS SAUDI ARABIA AND SYRIA.... JORDAN, SYRIA, IRAQ, AND SAUDI ARABIA BETWEEN THEM CAN ASSEMBLE A FORCE OF 4,000 TANKS AND 1,000 WARPLANES."

5. COMMENT: MOST PRONOUNCED LOCAL REACTION TO VISIT THUS FAR HAS BEEN IRRITATION, VOICED BY SEVERAL EMBASSY CONTACTS, WITH LOW-LEVEL GOV RECEPTION GIVEN KING AT AIRPORT, SINCE IT WAS ASSUMED THAT FRENCH PRESIDENT OR PRIME MINISTER WOULD MEET KING HUSSEIN.  
SUDDARTH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975AMMAN02795  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750147-1034  
**From:** AMMAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750412/aaaaalax.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JORDANIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF KING HUSSEIN'S VISIT TO FRANCE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, JO, FR, XF, (HUSSEIN I)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006